



COMMANDER'S STATEMENT ON HAZING

For the last 239 years our Marine Corps has served the nation by winning battles and making Marines. In the process, our Corps has earned a reputation as an elite fighting force that is feared and respected throughout the world. In recent years our Marines and Sailors have brought further honor to us through their superb efforts in Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM. Every member of this Squadron has earned the right to be here by graduating Boot Camp or completing The Basic School. There is no other initiation into the Marine Corps or this unit. It is our collective duty to preserve the esteemed name of this Squadron and the Marine Corps through our excellence in warfighting and our diligent efforts to do what is right every day.

One act that goes against our nature, tears at the fabric of our unit, and brings shame and disgrace upon us is the act of hazing. Hazing is defined as an act by one of our Marines and Sailors towards another which causes them to be exposed to an activity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating or oppressive. Hazing often revolves around an act of initiation or congratulation, and can include physical acts to inflict pain, verbally berating another, or encouraging another to engage in illegal, dangerous, or demeaning acts. Some common examples of hazing are pinning on of rank, forced consumption of alcohol/alcohol funneling, and incentive PT.

My policy concerning hazing is very simple – hazing will not be tolerated, period! Hazing violates the dignity of our Marines and Sailors and brings dishonor upon our command. Therefore, it is the duty of every individual in this command to stamp it out. If you are found guilty of committing an act of hazing you can expect to be held accountable by facing judicial or non-judicial action. If you are subjected to hazing, or if you are aware of an act of hazing being committed, you must report it. You can report it through your chain-of-command, or through other avenues, such as the Squadron Equal Opportunity Representative or Chaplain. In any case, it must be reported promptly so that appropriate action can be taken.

Marines and Sailors, I charge you with treating each other with respect and preserving the honor of this command by not allowing hazing to occur. Treat others like you want to be treated and do the right thing. In so doing, we will continue to build the sterling reputation of our Corps and MWSS-271. Semper Fidelis!


Ginger E. Beals

Commanding Officer, MWSS-271